

88. (Original) The expandable strut assembly of claim 86 wherein the deployment member has a pattern of alternating peaks and valleys in a sinusoidal wave pattern, each of the first ends of the first set of struts being attached to the valley portions of the deployment member and each of the first ends of the second set of struts being attached to the peak portions of the deployment member.

89. (Original) The expandable strut assembly of claim 86 wherein the first set of struts and second set of struts are arranged in a staggered pattern along the deployment member.

90. (Original) The expandable strut assembly of claim 86 wherein each of the struts of the first set are arranged in a staggered pattern with each of the struts of the second set of struts along the deployment member.

91. (Original) The expandable strut assembly of claim 86 wherein each of the second ends of the first and second set of struts are attached to movable collars.

92. (Original) The expandable strut assembly of claim 86 wherein the deployment member is integral with each of the struts of the first and second sets of struts.

93. (Original) The expandable strut assembly of claim 86 wherein the deployment member provides vessel wall opposition.

94. (Original) A filter element for capturing embolic debris released into the bloodstream of a blood vessel of a patient, comprising:

a central region having an inlet opening and defining a storage reservoir for capturing embolic debris, the central region having a plurality of openings adapted to allow blood to flow therethrough but capture embolic debris larger than the size of the openings and contain the debris within the reservoir; and

a filter edge integral with the central region and having an inlet opening, the filter edge having a pattern of alternating peak and valley regions which prevent the filter edge from entering into a restraining sheath all at one time.

95. (Original) The filter element of claim 94, wherein the filter edge has a sinusoidal configuration which includes peak and valley regions.

96. (Original) The filter element of claim 94, wherein the peak portions are attachable to struts of a strut assembly.

97. (Original) The filter element of claim 94, wherein the depth of the valley region on the filter edge is a progressively larger dimension from an adjoining valley portion.

98. (Original) The filter element of claim 94, wherein the depth of the valley portion from the peak portion is the same for each adjacent valley portion.

99. (Original) The filter element of claim 94, wherein the height of the peak region on the filter edge is a progressively larger dimension from an adjoining peak portion.

100. (Original) The filter element of claim 94, wherein the height of the peak portion from the valley portion is the same for each adjacent peak portion.